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author's conception of wages is open to criticism and that his discussion of the distribution of wealth is little more than a confession that he has no theory to explain the subject ; but here we are in the region of economic controversies, and differences of opinion are to be expected.

Could one fuse together the material of two such books as Gonner's "Commercial Geography" and Gibbins' "Economics of Commerce" and then cast the fusion in the properly fashioned mould, one would have something approaching a good elementary textbook in commercial geography. Such a text, supplemented by lectures and reading, would answer present needs.

The use of a brief text like this would be would make such a book as Lionel W. Lyde's "Commercial Geography of the British Empire" of service.* The work consists principally of a discussion of the physical conditions affecting production and interchange of goods and an application of that discussion in the subsequent study of the economic activity of the several parts of the British Empire. The book is suggestive and will make good supplementary reading in a general course on commercial geography.

EMORY R. JOHNSON.

NOTES.

THE ENLARGED EDITION of "An Honest Dollar," by President Andrews,† contains two essays which have not been published in other form, one in reply to Giffen's "The Case Against Bimetallism," and one on "The Monetary Experiment in India." In his reply to Giffen President Andrews contends that the alleged premium on gold in France after 1883 was not a premium in the sense attached to the word by Mr. Giffen and does not prove that silver had lost its legal parity with gold, the main explanation of the so-called premium being found in the fact that the French mintage charge on silver was heavier than on gold. His whole argument on this point is one that the monometallist cannot afford to ignore.

CANON BARNETT AND his wife represent the papers which compose the volume on "Practicable Socialism"‡ to be the miscellaneous writing

* *A Commercial Geography of the British Empire.* By LIONEL W. LYDE, M. A. Pp. 156. Price, 2s. London: Methuen & Co., 1894.

† *An Honest Dollar.* By E. BENJ. ANDREWS. Pp. 183. Price, \$1.00. Hartford: Student Publishing Company, 1894.

‡ *Practicable Socialism: Essays on Social Reform.* By SAMUEL and HENRIETTA BARNETT. Pp. 328. Price \$1.50. London and New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1894.

done during a fifteen years' residence in London. Thus the book does not lay claim to orderly logical sequence, and it has the defects incidental thereto. None the less many of its chapters are full of valuable observations and reflections which no one could have accumulated who had not studied the life of the poorer classes at first hand. Both Canon Barnett and Mrs. Barnett possess the faculty of keen insight, and they are alike in approaching remedial measures of all kinds with discretion and temperateness as well as sympathy. This latter essential of all sound social reform is well shown in the chapter which gives to the volume its title. Canon Barnett's outlook is a tolerably hopeful and confident one, though he does not hesitate to say that the retrospect of twenty years leaves a certain feeling of disappointment. The standard of life in East London is still far lower than it should be.

Several of the chapters by Mrs. Barnett deal specifically with the condition of women, girls and children, and contain much to suggest, much to encourage, but also much to pain.

A GOOD POPULAR ACCOUNT of the unification of Italy has long been a desideratum, the Countess Cesaresco has been more than usually successful in meeting the demand for a compendious presentation of this great episode.* Her book is well written and as profound as is perhaps necessary considering the class of readers for whom it is destined. Good sources have apparently been used and with some independence, but these are not indicated except in a few vague references in the preface. The writer speaks of a collection of "older writings formed with much care between the years 1850-1870," from which she derived great aid, but the curiosity of the student is not gratified by any further explanation. The style is spirited, but there is no suggestion of the flippant tone so common in the treatment of recent history. Good portraits of the four great heroes of the *risorgimento* are given.

UNDER THE TITLE of the "Sphere of the State" † are bound together a series of lectures on practical social and economic questions. These are preceded by two chapters on "The True Conception of the State," and "The State in its Relation to Government." In the

* *The Liberation of Italy, 1815-1870.* By the COUNTESS EVELYN MARTINENGO CESADESCO, with portraits. Pp. 415. Price \$1.75. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1894.

† *The Sphere of the State.* By FRANK SARGENT HOFFMAN. Pp. 275. Price, \$1.50. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1894.

former the author adheres to the views expressed by Professor Burgess in his "Political Science." In the latter chapter, one of the best in the book, a clear distinction is drawn between "the State" and "the Government." The remainder of the book deals with questions outside the field of political science, and consists of a discussion of municipal government, transportation, taxation, corporations, property, education, etc. The word "State" forms a prominent part of the heading of nearly every chapter, but it occupies only a small place in the discussion. In his consideration of the various questions in their relation to the state the author's decision is based on the effect upon the well-being of the state. The sovereignty of the state is made absolute on all questions connected with human interests, and from this the author argues there is no such thing as "vested rights." The book brings together the views of some of the best writers on the various subjects treated.

A BOOK ON "NATIONAL RAILWAYS" by James Hole* is an elaborate statement of the argument for state purchase of railways. The book contains a large amount of data, but one feels doubtful concerning the correctness of many of the author's statements. The information in regard to America, at least, is second-hand and often inaccurate. As a sample of inaccuracy may be cited the statement on page 13 that "in the United States 99 per cent travel in carriages at least equal to the excellent third class (so called) of the Midland and the London and Northwestern Companies, or the second class of the London and Southwestern Company." This statement is quite at variance with the figures cited by Colonel H. G. Prout, the American, who has recently made a careful study of English railroads. Another instance of inaccuracy is to be found on page 31, where the total number of railway companies in the United States is put at 600. These, however, are only a few of the many mistakes to which attention might be directed.

The fundamental idea in Mr. Hole's book is sound enough, namely, that unrestrained competition is not the best nor most economic principle of railway operations. This fact, however, is not a sufficient basis for his superstructure; one may accept all the evils of unrestrained competition and still be doubtful as to the advisability of national ownership and operation of railways in all countries under all conditions.

A more careful and dispassionate study of the subject would have had a greater influence. The author's style is open to serious criticism.

* *National Railways: An Argument for State Purchase.* By JAMES HOLE. Pp. xvi, 385. Price, \$1.10. London and New York: Cassell & Co.

There is hardly a page without a quotation of greater or less length ; the book is inexcusably padded.

THE MONOGRAPH BY J. H. Hollander on "The Cincinnati Southern Railway,"* represents a careful and impartial study by a thorough student. The work includes a picture of the commercial necessities of Cincinnati during the '60's ; an account of the litigation involved in securing the legislation necessary to enable the city of Cincinnati to construct the railway ; a story of the work of constructing the railway ; an account of the lease and its operation ; a review of the work of the trust to which was given the management of the undertaking ; and, lastly, a summary of the results of the railway to the city of Cincinnati is given.

The story of the struggle through which Cincinnati went to obtain this railroad will do much to deter any other city that might be tempted to undertake a similar task ; but the results of the work are certainly a credit to Cincinnati, whose foresight and municipal honesty are commendable. Dr. Hollander says : "The railway has never been a factor in municipal politics and has exerted no perceptible influence in this direction." In regard to the future of the railway, Dr. Hollander says : "It will probably remain in the possession of Cincinnati for many years to come." He also thinks that "properly administered, the railway can work an entire revolution in the finances of Cincinnati." This concrete study in municipal activity is well worth the consideration alike of students of municipal government and transportation.

VOLUMES IV AND V of the "*Histoire générale*,"† edited by Professors Lavissee and Rambaud, have recently appeared. They cover the period 1492-1648, dealing with Renaissance, Reformation and the Wars of Religion. The same well-known authors contribute to these volumes who have been mentioned in the notices of the previous issues.‡ It would perhaps have been an experiment worth trying to have omitted some of the well-worn anecdotes which convention alone appears to demand, for example, in the *généralités* of Italian history at the opening of the fourth volume. Still there is no neglect of the significant

* *The Cincinnati Southern Railway: A Study in Municipal Activity* By J. H. HOLLANDER. Pp. 116. Price, \$1.00. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press. 1894.

† *Histoire générale du IVe. Siècle à nos jours* ouvrage publié sous la direction de MM. E. LAVISSEE et A. RAMBAUD. Tome IV, *Renaissance et Réforme, les nouveaux Mondes, 1492-1559*, Tome V, *Les guerres de Religion 1559-1648*. Pp. 999 and 982. Paris: Armand Colin et Cie.

‡ See ANNALS, Vol. iv, p. 987; Vol. v, p. 616.

phases of history. M. Petit de Julleville gives us an excellent brief account of the French literature of the fifteenth century. Levasseur contributes chapters upon the economic progress and the policy of Sully, and Rambaud describes the changes in Russia and the Turkish Empire in its most flourishing days.

The readable character of the work and the thoughtful presentation of special phases of history by first-rate authorities will outweigh a few weak, conventional chapters which are inevitable in every considerable co-operative undertaking.

The work when completed will, it is announced, comprise twelve large octavo volumes.

“SUGGESTIONS ON GOVERNMENT”* is a vigorous attack upon widely recognized abuses and weaknesses in the working of our national, commonwealth and municipal governments. The author thinks that we have outgrown, in some important respects, our political institutions. He sees the explanation of the present evils in our government in the fact that “the individual voter has almost entirely lost control over legislation and administration.” He proposes to find some way by which the popular will may be unmistakably declared. The plan which he advocates is interesting, and although we may not be ready to adopt it as a whole yet it expresses in a very fair way the logical outcome of certain tendencies in the most advanced thought on government.

The first step he advocates is a return to the principle of the old New England town-meeting. “The ancient Teutonic *folkmoet* is still the basis on which a thoroughly trustworthy government must rest.” This can be attained even in large cities as well as throughout the country by dividing the voters into primary precinct assemblies of about 500 members. This primary assembly is to be considered the “normal unit of the body politic.” “In small towns it would constitute the supreme local government; in larger ones it would form a council district. It would elect a county supervisor, and alone or in conjunction with others, a member of the State legislature. It would be the organ for the expression of the popular will in the initiative and the referendum. It would be an arena in which all political and social elements would meet on common ground, and every measure of public policy would find assailants and defenders.” Mr. Moffett acknowledges his indebtedness to Albert Stickney for ideas on this subject. But he would carry the work of this primary assembly into the field of national and commonwealth government and

* *Suggestions on Government*. By S. E. MOFFETT. Pp. 200. Price \$1.00. Chicago and New York: Rand, McNally & Co., 1894.

not confine it to local units. "The people in their primary assemblies should not only be the ultimate source of power, but its permanent depository." This scheme, its author thinks, promises to realize all the advantages which he believes rest in the popular initiative and the referendum, by providing a regular and natural machinery for the exercise of these powers. Proportional representation, according to the scheme of Thomas Hare, but with the modifications in detail arising logically from the division of the population into popular assemblies, would also be feasible.

The question naturally arises, whether this plan would accentuate in an undue degree the weakness of all democratic government, namely: the ignorance and vacillation of the people. Mr. Moffett thinks that the educative force of free discussion in the primary assemblies would in time remove this danger entirely. But experience scarcely sustains this hope. The States of Vermont and New Hampshire come closest of all to a realization of the scheme proposed, but their political wisdom after a century of such training is not conspicuous. Nor in the matter of political purity do these States show any advantage which may not be better explained by the sway of better morals and stronger religious principles and the absence or smallness of temptation to political wrong-doing.

MR. MUHLEMAN'S "Monetary Systems of the World"* is a very useful compilation of available statistics concerning the currency and banking systems of all countries. It contains a tolerably complete description of the kinds of currency in use in the United States and a compact sketch of obsolete systems, including State bank issues. There is a special study of the volume of the world's money and another of the United States money. The book describes the Clearing House system, gives the history of international monetary conferences, and outlines the various propositions for the solution of the currency problem in the United States. It has a serviceable index, and is altogether indispensable to the student of monetary problems.

THE FOURTH NUMBER OF "Economic Classics," being edited by W. J. Ashley, is a reprint of Thomas Mun's famous monograph on "England's Treasure by Forraign Trade."† The reprint of this essay

* *Monetary Systems of the World.* A Study of Present Currency Systems and Statistical Information Relative to the Volume of the World's Money. By MAURICE L. MUHLEMAN. Pp. 198. New York: Charles H. Nichol, 1895.

† *England's Treasure by Forraign Trade.* By THOMAS MUN. Pp. viii, 119. Price, 75 cts. New York: Macmillan & Co., 1895.

will serve a most useful purpose. Mun was one of the earliest, and also one of the best informed men of the mercantilists; he was engaged in the Levant trade himself, and was a director of the East India Company, thus he came to his ideas on trade by very practical means. The reprint makes a convenient and attractive little volume of 119 pages. Advanced students in economics can hardly afford to do without the work.

AMONG THE NUMEROUS memoirs relating to the revolutionary and Napoleonic period which have recently been published in France, none are likely to prove more valuable to the historian, as well as the general reader, than those of Pasquier,* who, as member of the Council of State, as prefect of police during the last few years of Napoleon's reign, and later as chancellor had such excellent opportunities for judging of certain phases of the history. The style of the memoirs suggests that of Miot de Melito. It is calm and judicial, evoking the confidence of the reader. The translation is good, the work constituting in every way one of the most useful and interesting contributions to the history of France during the early years of this century. Napoleon occupies no exaggerated place, the author always keeping the history of France rather than the life of its great ruler primarily in mind. The writer has aimed to lay especial stress upon the Restoration, the third volume of the English version relating solely to the years 1814-15. The last volume so far published of the French original reaches the year 1824, and it is to be hoped that the English translation will not be discontinued before it embraces the entire work.

MR. STOKES † BELIEVES he has a plan that should bring to an end the "war of the standards." He would have the government coin pieces of silver, to be called standards, of the same weight as the present gold half-eagle, and all debts should be payable half in gold and half in these silver standards, the value of a standard to be fixed once a month by the government according to "the average relative market values of gold and silver." This plan is a revival of the ancient *electron*, for the two metals, although not mixed in the coinage, would be practically tied together in their service as a medium of exchange. Inasmuch as the rating of the silver standard is to be changed

* *A History of My Time. Memoirs of Chancellor Pasquier*, edited by the Duke D'AUDIFFRET PASQUIER, translated by CHARLES E. ROCHE. 3 vols., Pp. 559, 559, 461. Price, \$7.50. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1893-94.

† *Joint Metallism*. By ANSON PHELPS STOKES. Pp. 221. Price 75 cents. Third edition. New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1894.

whenever the relative values of gold and silver change, it is evident that Mr. Stoke's plan leaves gold the standard of value just as it is at present. It will receive, therefore, no favor from bimetallists, while for the believer in monometallism it possesses no advantages over the present system.

THE FIRST THREE numbers of Volume II of the "Translations and Reprints from the Original Sources of European History," being published by the Department of History of the University of Pennsylvania, have appeared.* The first number of Volume II is edited by Professor Edward P. Cheyney, and contains documents illustrating the history of "English Towns and Gilds." The pamphlet contains sources of information concerning customs of cities and boroughs, charters of cities and boroughs, ordinances and other records of merchant gilds, of craft gilds, and social and religious gilds. A list of English towns at various periods is also included.

Number two relates to "The Napoleonic Period," and is edited by Professor James Harvey Robinson. Students and teachers of this complex period of history will find the pamphlet of great service. The publication includes extracts from the Memoirs of Miot de Melito, the complete text of the secret treaty of Campo Formio and the Peace of Lunéville, Napoleon's note to the German Diet, dissolving the Holy Roman Empire, the abdication of Francis II., four documents relating to the Continental system, the Prussian Reform Edict of October, 1807, and the decree reuniting the Papal dominions to the French Empire. A bibliography is given at the end of the pamphlet. These selections from the original sources will give the student standards by which to test not a few of the numerous contradictory opinions concerning Napoleon that are to be found in the mass of literature devoted to his life and work.

The theme of number three of the second volume is "The Mediæval Student," the editor being Mr. Dana Carleton Munro. The material contained in this pamphlet will interest students of education as well as history. The reprint covers four subjects, the privileges of the students, the courses of study, the condemnation of errors, the life of the students. A good bibliography closes the number.

M. BERGEAUD'S WORK† on Constitutions was reviewed in the

* Cf. ANNALS, Vol. v, p. 621, for notice of previous numbers.

† *Adoption and Amendment of Constitutions in Europe and America.* By CHARLES BERGEAUD. Translated by CHARLES D. HAZEN, with an introduction by John M. Vincent. Pp. xxi, 353. Price, \$2.00. New York: Macmillan & Co., 1895.

ANNALS* shortly after its original appearance in French; and very little need now be added to the notice then given to it. The author has gathered into orderly shape a good deal of information on his subject, and placed it at the handy disposal of teachers and students; it is a book of reference for facts rather than, to any considerable degree, a discussion of the principles involved in the framing and amendment of constitutions. The rendering into English is well done, and the translator has wisely provided an index.

A FRIEND OF BROWN UNIVERSITY has offered the sum of \$200 as a prize to encourage the historical study of the development of religious liberty in America. The following are the regulations respecting its award: (1) The prize shall be open to general competition. (2) It shall be given to the writer of the best essay on one of the three following themes: (a) A critical comparison of the claims put forward, on behalf of Rhode Island and Maryland respectively, regarding the first establishment of religious liberty in America; (b) a critical history of the movement toward disestablishment and religious liberty in Connecticut; (c) a critical history of the movement toward disestablishment and religious liberty in Massachusetts. (3) No essay shall be received which is not founded upon original research. (4) The prize shall be awarded at Commencement, 1896, essays submitted in competition for it shall be placed in the hands of the president of Brown University on or before May 1, 1896. (5) The essays shall not bear the writer's name, but an assumed name. A paper bearing the writer's real name shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope, upon which shall be written the assumed name, and which shall be handed in with the essay.

THE GERMAN VEREIN FÜR SOZIALPOLITIK decided on the 17th of March of this year to organize a vacation course of lectures in Political and Social Science, to be held in the buildings of the University of Berlin from the 30th of September to the 12th of October. The people for whom these lectures are primarily intended are lawyers, clergymen, teachers, public officials of all classes, journalists, and "others, including educated women." Twelve courses of six lectures each have been arranged. The price of an inclusive ticket has been fixed at 25 marks; the price for any one week for all lectures given in that week at 15 marks, and for the single course of six lectures at 3 marks.

Professor Conrad, of the University of Halle, will give one course on "Population, Colonies and Emigration;" Professor v. Miaskowski,

* November, 1893, Vol. iv, p. 487.

of Leipsic, on "The Establishment, Preservation and Extension of the German Peasant Class;" Professor v. Philippovich, of Vienna, on "Recent Commercial Policy;" Professor Brentano, of Munich, on "The Wages Question;" Professor Knapp, of Strassburg, on "Money;" Professor Neumann, of Tübingen, on "Finance;" Professor Sering, of Berlin, on "Agriculture;" Professor Bücher, of Leipsic, on "Modern Industry;" Professor Wagner, of Berlin, on "Private Property;" Professor Elster, of Breslau, on "Social Problems of the Modern State;" Dr. Oldenberg, of Berlin, on "History and Theory of the Social Democracy;" Professor Schmoller, of Berlin, on "Social Classes and Social Struggles."